WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An information processing apparatus comprising:

fingerprint verification means for verifying a fingerprint read from a fingerprint reading surface against previously stored fingerprints of authorized users,

the information processing apparatus further comprising:

display means having a display surface with orthogonal coordinates set thereon;

coordinate designating means for designating coordinates related to fingerprint reading on the display surface; and

control means for controlling an operation based on designated coordinates.

2.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the display surface and the fingerprint reading surface are one and the same.

3.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the fingerprint reading surface is formed on the coordinate designating means.

4.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control means activates the fingerprint verification means when specific coordinates are designated.

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5.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

secret number acquiring means for acquiring a secret number based on designated coordinates; and

secret number identifying means for verifying the acquired secret number against a previously stored secret number,

wherein the control means controls an operation based on a result of the secret number verification.

6.   The information processing apparatus of claim 5, wherein the control means activates the fingerprint verification means when the secret numbers match each other.

7.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control means controls the operation of a power source of the information processing apparatus when there is a match in fingerprint.

8.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein when there is a match as a result of the verification of the read fingerprint against the previously stored fingerprints, the control means reads out an operation condition associated with an authorized user having the matching fingerprint from among operation conditions previously set for the authorized

users and sets the condition.

9.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the fingerprint verification means is capable of verifying fingerprints of all fingers of both hands.

10.   The information processing apparatus of claim 9, wherein when the fingerprints of the respective fingers match the previously stored ones, the control means reads out a command associated with each finger of the user having the matching fingerprints, from among commands previously registered for the respective fingers of the authorized user and executes the commands.

11.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

    icon setting means for setting an icon associated with an application; and

    icon designation judging means for judging whether the set icon is designated or not, based on designated coordinates,

    wherein when the icon is designated and there is a match in fingerprint as a result of the fingerprint verification, the control means reads out only data of a user having the matching fingerprint in an application associated with the designated icon and causes the data to be displayed.

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12.   The information processing apparatus of claim 11, wherein when an icon is designated and there is a match in fingerprint as a result of the fingerprint verification, the control means initiates an application associated with a user having the matching fingerprint among applications previously set for the respective authorized users.

13.   The information processing of claim 11, wherein the respective icons are associated with files for the respective authorized users; and

when an icon is designated and there is a match in fingerprint as a result of the fingerprint verification, the control means opens only a file of a user having the matching fingerprint out of files associated with the designated icon out of the files.

14.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

menu execution level area setting means for setting an area associated with an execution level of a menu; and

menu execution level area designation judging means for judging based on designated coordinates whether a set menu execution level area is designated or not,

wherein when a menu execution level area is designated

and there is a match in fingerprint, the control means executes

a menu at an execution level associated with an authorized user

having the matching fingerprint among execution levels

previously set for the respective users, as well as an execution

level of the designated menu execution level area.

15.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein

a document having a seal box is displayed on the display means;

and

        when detected coordinates are coordinates of the seal box,

the control means affixes an approval seal in the seal box of

the document,

        the information processing apparatus further comprising:

        communication means for communicating an approval-seal

affixed document.

16.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein

a document having a seal box is displayed on the display means;

and

        when detected coordinates are coordinates of the seal box,

the control means affixes an approval seal in the seal box of

the document,

        the information processing apparatus further comprising:

        attendant processing means for subjecting an

approval-seal affixed document to an attendant processing.